

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2846  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000  
ACQUACULTURE FARMING  
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is a vast scope to promote fresh water acquaculture in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during last three years;
- (c) the specific steps proposed to be taken to promote acquaculture in the cyclone affected districts in that State; and
- (d) the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Yes Sir. Orissa has 1,14,838.73 ha of ponds and tanks where there is potential for promoting freshwater aquaculture in the State.

(b): Fisheries is a State subject, and the Ministry is assisting and supplementing the efforts of State Governments for developing fisheries. The 'Development of Freshwater Aquaculture' is one of the Centrally Sponsored schemes being implemented by the Government of India in the State of Orissa through 30 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs). The agencies provide a package of technical, financial and extension support to fish farmers. During the last three years, the State Government has been provided central assistance to the extent of Rs.120 lakhs and operational FFDAs in the State have brought 5985 ha water area under scientific fish culture. Training has also been imparted to 4907 fish farmers/fishermen in improved practices of fish farming.

(c) & (d): Recently the above mentioned scheme has been revised, and expenditure on developmental activities will be shared on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State Government instead of the previous 50:50 ratio. Besides ongoing components, new components such as creation of freshwater prawn seed hatcheries, and diagnostic laboratories etc. have also been introduced to meet present day requirements. In view of the availability of large resources amenable to aquaculture in cyclone affected districts in Orissa, the State may avail more central assistance under the Scheme to enhance the coverage for freshwater aquaculture under this programme.